

Amendments to the Abstract:

Please amend the abstract on page 60 as follows. A clean version of the abstract is attached as a separate page hereto.

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR A COMPUTER-IMPLEMENTED SYSTEM FOR THE MAINTAINENCE-OF MAINTAINING A BUSINESS RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN A SELLER AND A BUYER

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

~~Disclosed is a computer-implemented~~ A method for maintaining a business relationship between a seller ~~(i.e., a first entity)~~ and a buyer ~~(i.e., a second entity)~~. ~~The method includes the steps of including:~~ a) providing a central database of information ~~that contains~~ containing disparate buyer data on a ~~first entity~~ seller network; b) establishing a buyer access level function on a ~~first entity~~ seller network, ~~wherein the buyer level function that~~ allows the ~~first entity~~ seller to provide a buyer with access to a set of buyer data and a set of buyer functions for structuring the set of buyer data; c) ~~establishing a gatekeeper level function that provides~~ providing access at a gatekeeper buyer contact point on a buyer network to the set of buyer data from the database and the set of buyer functions; and d) establishing a buyer subordinate level user function at a buyer subordinate level user contact point that provides a buyer subordinate level user with access to selected buyer data from the set of buyer data and selected functions from the selected buyer functions at the buyer subordinate level user contact point. ~~Also disclosed is an apparatus that is capable of performing this method.~~



METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MAINTAINING A BUSINESS RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN A SELLER AND A BUYER

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for maintaining a business relationship between a seller and a buyer including: a) providing a central database of information containing disparate buyer data on a seller network; b) establishing a buyer access level function on a seller network that allows the seller to provide a buyer with access to a set of buyer data and a set of buyer functions for structuring the set of buyer data; c) providing access at a gatekeeper buyer contact point on a buyer network to the set of buyer data from the database and the set of buyer functions; and d) establishing a buyer subordinate level user function at a buyer subordinate level user contact point that provides a buyer subordinate level user with access to selected buyer data from the set of buyer data and selected functions from the selected buyer functions at the buyer subordinate level user contact point.